

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to include reference to application number PCT/AU03/0010 filed on January 8, 2003, which claims priority to Australian Application No. PR 9980 filed on January 17, 2002.

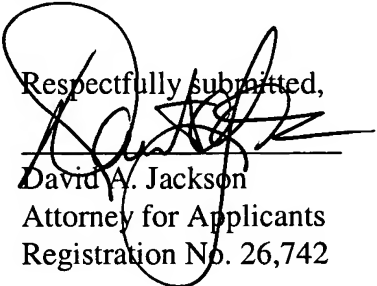
The Claims have been amended to reduce multiple dependencies and to conform claims more closely to U.S. practice.

In this connection, applicant wishes to point out that the claims being treated as original claims for the purposes of this filing and this Preliminary Amendment correspond to the claims submitted to the International Bureau as of January 19, 2004 and that were acknowledged and considered in the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER). A separate copy of said claims as filed before the International Bureau is also enclosed and confirmation that said claims are pending herein is requested.

Likewise, page 2 of the original Specification was amended during International processing, at the same time as the submission of the amended claims, and an amended sheet is likewise enclosed for the Examiner's reference and for inclusion in the application as filed herewith.

Entry of the foregoing amendments and early and favorable processing in the National Phase before the United States Patent and Trademark Office is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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